

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**Human Trafficking Task Force**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Convened at 10:02 A.M.

Task Force Members Present: Martha Coakley, Liam Lowney, Ellen Lemire, Susan Goldfarb, Cherie Jimenez, Chief Tom Pasquarello, Colin Moore, Sheridan Haines, Chris Carroll, Audrey Porter, Heather Rowe, Lisa Goldblatt Grace, Mary McCauley, Diane Richards, Stephanie Decandia, Kelly Nee

Staff: Alicia Pradas-Monne, Kimberly Henry

Updates from the Chair

A thank you to local law enforcement for their actions during and after the Marathon Bombing  
Here for recommendations at the last meeting of the HTTF  
There may be one more meeting [after] the final report goes out

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve Minutes
- Moved by Sheridan Haines
  - Seconded by Audrey Porter
- Minutes adopted unanimously and will be posted on the AGO website.

Recommendations from Data Collection – Chief Tom Pasquarello

- Thank you to subcommittee members
- Task:
  - Gather information on data and privacy
  - Recommendations to assist in human trafficking
  - Need to recommend policies even if it [is not fiscally possible]
  - What data collection centers exist?
  - How could data be stored, shared and accessed
- Found:
  - We are unable to identify victims well
    - Without assistance from victims
    - Under identified
    - No centralized data collection system for human trafficking exists
      - New data system should be created
- Recommendations:
  - Case coordinators and multi-disciplinary teams could be established
  - Developed two sets of questions
    - One for minors and one for adults
    - Not a question and answer but a guided discussion
  - Develop a centralized database for victims and suspects
    - Define “human trafficking” for clarity between divisions
  - Should contain basic information about both victims and suspects while protecting privacy

- Should be handled by a single person
- Moving forward:
  - Training needed and funding to support employees and system maintenance
    - Victim assistance and data collection
- Task Force Feedback
  - AG Coakley: we are trying to address a problem that we don't have all of the numbers for
    - Who are these missing children who disappear
      - Why and how does it happen?
      - It shouldn't happen

#### Recommendations from Demand Reduction – Sheridan Haines

- Task:
  - Looked into the demand for sex trafficking
  - Examined demand reduction techniques throughout the United States and Massachusetts
  - What is currently happening and how can we bring it to the next level
- Recommendations:
  - 1 Reverse stings
    - There are not enough female decoys
      - Who are too easily recognized
    - Create a technical unit that could exchange female decoys
    - Centralize data collection
  - 2 John Schools (specifically for purchasing of adults)
    - 40% recidivism rate after attending
    - Revenue neutral and even sometimes revenue producing
    - Develop a centralized state level entity to oversee
    - Supplement or replace convictions
    - Structured similar to those for battered women
  - 3 Integrate demand reduction
    - Focus on consumers
    - Company supply chain transparency
    - This is not a victimless crime
    - Program can be geared towards buyers as well as the general public
    - Goal to make Massachusetts the least likely to state to sex traffic
  - 4 Standing committee to look at the demand side
    - Which is different than prostitution
- Task Force Feedback:
  - AG Coakley: change the name of “John School”
    - Are there any ways to measure the effectiveness of the John school in Worcester
  - Sheridan Haines: good to study Worcester model
    - Sentencing vs. diversion
    - Also good to have comparison model
  - Kelly Nee: is the recidivism rate before or after?
  - Sheridan Haines: After but actual rates could be higher
  - AG Coakley: Unless prosecutor or judge recommends it, it is unlikely to happen
    - Coming from a not-for-profit is a slap on the wrist
  - Mary McCauley: the kind of John stings are more about the technology than the female decoys
    - 99% of these transactions are over the internet
    - The ability to keep up with technology as well as information sharing

- Liam Lowney: With a mandatory minimum fine it is important to track what happens after the arrest
  - Judicial training
- AG Coakley: need to institutionalize with the judges
- Chief Pasquarello: starting to look into sharing technology as well as information
- AG Coakley: the fear of getting caught has a lot to do with deterrence with this crime in particular

#### Recommendations from Public Awareness – Brian Heffron

- Found:
  - Looked into 20 different systems around the country
  - Average person doesn't understand human trafficking if asked about it
  - A lot of the systems that exist are self-funded
  - Evaluate the effectiveness of each approach/new approaches with regard to Massachusetts and the goals of the task force
  - If a goal is to target buyers than public awareness needs to be in tune with that
- Recommendations:
  - Cost-effective notices, announcements and advertisements that can be displayed in public
  - More awareness around trafficking
    - Get more people to understand this is not a victimless crime
  - Develop approach towards micro-targets
    - Reach buyers and those caught in the web
    - Campaign built around culturally sensitive language
  - Media can be geared towards different targets
  - Atlanta Dear John campaign could be replicated
    - Mayor drove to drive down trafficking
  - UNICEF campaign
    - Is a readymade campaign
    - Allow Massachusetts to work with a company like UNICEF that already exists
  - New Ideas:
    - Really needs to grab attention
    - Ask creative agencies to work pro-bono to come up with new solutions
    - A more dynamic website than the Commonwealth's
      - Would compel consumers to visit
    - Someone needs to be in charge of driving the campaign and work closely with the efforts of the entire committee
- Task Force Feedback
  - AG Coakley: This should be the last thing discussed after listening to other recommendations

#### Recommendations from Training and Education – Ellen Lemire and Lisa Goldblatt Grace

- Ellen Lemire:
- Programs and educational and training opportunities for **law enforcement**
  - Can be integrated within current training
- AG Coakley: is it an issue on college campuses?
- Lisa Goldblatt Grace: women can meet with older men to get paid via various websites
- Ellen Lemire: Recommendations (cont.)
  - Conduct training at three levels
    - Recruit training

- In-service
    - Tie into 40 hours of mandatory training
  - Specialized/advanced training for those who would deal specifically with human trafficking
    - Collaborate and develop standardized training for all three levels
    - Train the trainer
  - Federal government is currently doing training like this
  - Can be established as part of the current training
  - Recommend face-to-face training
    - E-training is more efficient for information sharing rather than training
- Lisa Goldblatt Grace: **First Responders** - Thanks to Ellen's baby for not being born before the recommendations were due
- Recommended strategy:
  - Broad array of providers need to be reached
  - Training and other providers
    - Licensed institutions
    - Service agencies
  - Key lessons
    - Training
    - Language to be consistent
    - Nuanced and grounded in the sex industry
    - Single plus multi-disciplinary
    - Girls, boys, trans, youth, minors and adults
    - Both labor and sex trafficking
  - Medical personnel
    - Tiered
    - Basic curricula for everyone
    - Advanced curricula to create an in-house hero
      - Would be everything from level 1 in more depth
      - Plus additional information
  - DCF
    - Tiered
    - More training
      - Longer CORE training
    - All current workers should be trained
    - Better training for field workers and managers
- Ellen Lemire: **schools, parents, and students**
  - Tiered approach to school personnel
    - Basic curricula
      - 1-2 hours to provide a fundamental understanding
      - For anyone who has contact with students
    - Advanced curricula
      - Half day or full day sessions to provide more detailed information
      - Nurses, guidance counselors, social workers and administrators
  - Should reach ALL parents
    - Universal materials
    - Can be distributed at and after school
  - Students
    - Online safety
    - Tie into "acceptable use policy"

- Task Force Feedback:
  - Diane Richard: Who will do the training?
  - Lisa Goldblatt Grace: Organizations that have already done training
    - People who provide the services so that the training can be grounded to something
  - Cherie Jimenez: Populations that are not in school or work are left out and although this is not mentioned in the statute we should address this
  - Lisa Lemire: All institutions need to be trained
  - AG Coakley: Focus on where the biggest need is
    - Working on those populations that we know are in the system
    - Institutionalize training
    - What are we going to do with the women when traffic stops occur
      - How to deal with the victims (in the car) that may or may not be the only victims of this particular individual
    - Without informants, people who are moving around are hard to track
      - What to do when places like nail salons [etc.] are shut down so the workers no longer have any legitimate source of income

#### Recommendations from Victim Services – Liam Lowney

- 1 Identify and review existing services and facilities
    - Few and far between
  - 2 Pilot project for a safe-house
- Recommendation:
    - Victim services should be survivor driven
    - Build upon/support existing services/programs
    - Services are needed, but funding is needed first and foremost
      - There exists no dedicated funds for victims
        - Should be dedicated funds and services
      - Money will not be available until forfeiture of property through the court
    - Should address barriers of victims' access to public housing
    - Addressing issues with travel VISAs
    - Safe-House pilot program
      - Exit/full-service program
        - More than 4-walls and a roof
      - Survivor led/driven
        - Have been shown as essential throughout the country
      - Short AND long term programs/solutions
        - Short term should be about assessment
        - Long term should be an exit program
      - Location will be key
        - Access to public transit
        - Individuals are adults or leading adult lives
    - Working group needs to be established to actually “do it”
      - Location
      - How to create working group
      - Funding for the working group
    - City needs to be invested in the programs
    - John School fees/revenues have often gone to victim services
  - Task Force Feedback:
    - AG Coakley: What is the projected budget?

- Having multiple locations of safe-houses is more probably than a single location.
- Liam Lowney: We need a wish list to be in line with what is fiscally possible
- Cherie Jimenez: Minnesota have an intense short term program and many houses
- AG Coakley: We can think big, and scale back as need be
- Liam Lowney: cost is the biggest issue
  - Differences in expenses between Minnesota and Boston
- AG Coakley: need concrete goals to start from
- Cherie Jimenez: Creative ways were shared from the Minnesota program
- AG Coakley: it will have to begin with a conference call with programs that exist and expand from there
- AG Coakley: any other issues? None. Ok
  - In the next few weeks Kim and Alicia will get back to you all on reports
    - So you can all get them back with your comments
  - Goal: to have this completed by the end of August
  - We would like to have one more meeting as a follow-up
  - Thank you all for being so committed
    - Everyone here has been educated
  - Please let Kim, Alicia or I know about the best time for the next meeting

Motion to adjourn – Diane Richard

- Seconded by Tom Pasquarello
- Unanimous approval

Adjourned at 11:42 P.M.